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Linnæus included all the insects now comprised in the family *Carabidæ*, at present divided into several hundreds of genera. To write, therefore, *Carabus* Linn., when we mean something entirely different, may be usual but is not desirable.

I may add, that I consider it useless to expect a perfectly stable zoological nomenclature, until zoology itself is complete and perfect; but that in order to reduce changes to a minimum, classical and other secondary claims must not be allowed any great importance."— D. SHARP, *in Nature.*

GEOLOGY.

A NEW GENUS OF UNGULATES.— At a meeting of the American Philosophical Society, April 2nd, Prof. Cope stated that the largest mammal of the Eocene formations adjoining those of Wyoming, *i. e.*, of the Wahsatch group of Hayden, was the *Bathmodon radians* Cope, of about the size of Rhinocerus. It was an odd toed ungulate, with peculiar dental characters. The incisors were well developed above and below, as in the tapir, but the dental series was little interrupted. The crowns of the molars were all wider than long, and presented mixed characters. On the outer margin one only of the two usual crescents of Ruminants was present, but a tubercle represented the anterior one. The one which was present was very obliquely directed inwards. Inner crescents were represented by two angles, the posterior forming the inner angular margin of a flat table, the anterior a mere cingulum at its anterior base. The arrangement of these parts was stated to be of interest in connection with the relationships between the types of hoofed animals. The single outer crescent was a ruminant indication, while the inner table resembled the interior part of the crown of Titanotherium. It differed, however, in its early union with the outer margin, its edge being thus possibly homologous with the posterior transverse crest in *Rhinocerus*. The premolars had two or three lobes with crescentic section arranged transversely. He regarded the genus as allied to *Chalicotherium*. He stated that the mammalian fauna of Wyoming and Utah more nearly resembled that of the Paris Basin than any yet discovered in our country, and that it contained a still greater number of generalized mammalian forms. One of the most marked of these was the genus *Anchippodus* of Dr. Leidy.

Bowlders in Coal.—In the May number of the Naturalist (page 291), is an extract from the "Report of the Ohio Geological Survey," in which Prof. Andrews describes the occurrence of a quartzite bowlder in the coal of Ohio. This bowlder, he thinks, must have been transported there by ice; and to account for the ice he supposes a much colder climate for the coal period than most geologists would be willing to admit. It seems to me that a much simpler explanation, which dispenses with the supposed cold climate, is quite sufficient to account for the facts. It is well known that, during freshets, trees on the banks of streams are often undermined, and floated away, bearing in their roots large stones, which may thus be carried to great distances. In this way the small bowlder found in the coal of Ohio might easily have been transported. Similar instances of bowlders in seams of coal have been observed in this country and in Europe.—O. C. Marsh.

Food of Plesiosaurus.—At a meeting of the Academy of Natural Sciences, May 28th, Prof. Cope exhibited some vertebræ of a Plesiosauroid reptile and those of a smaller species, probably a *Clidastes* which were found in close proximity near Sheridan, Kansas, by Joseph Savage of Lawrence. According to this gentleman the vertebrate column of the *Clidastes* was found immediately below that of the Plesiosauroid and in a reversed position, as though it had been swallowed by the latter or larger reptile. The largest vertebræ of the *Clidastes* were about three-quarters the length and one-fourth the diameter of those of the Plesiosauroid, and the animal must have furnished a large or, at least, a long mouthful for its captor. The bones of the *Clidastes* were not in good condition, but resembled those of *C. cineriarum* Cope, though smaller. The Plesiosauroid was a species of over thirty feet in length and was the third species found in Kansas. It was new and was named *Plesiosaurus gulo*.

MICROSCOPY.

A New Erecting Prism.—Mr. Joseph Zentmayer exhibited, at a meeting of the Franklin Institute, a single prism which erects the image completely and in such a way that the incident and emerging rays are parallel, which, as far as we know, was never accomplished before. In connection with the microscope, as it was shown, it interfered very little with the definition, and, although